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* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Bill be passed into law."

The motion was put to the House and carried and the Bill was passed into law.

IV

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS ABKARI ACT, 1886.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Sir, I beg to present the Report [a] of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill to amend the Madras Abkari Act, 1886, and move that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" I second it."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the Bill be taken into consideration."

* The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, the report of the Select Committee was circulated only on the 22nd November and there is also one other thing, Mr. President, i.e., that the Bill itself was published only in September and three months have to elapse under the provisions of Standing Order No. 44. I take objection, Mr. President, that fourteen days have not elapsed since the circulation of the report of the Select Committee and three months have not elapsed after publication of the Bill. I assure you, Sir, that it is not the object of the Government to put off the consideration of the Bill, and this may be put down for the next sittings. Moreover, I was informed by Mr. Saldanha that he wanted an adjournment."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I think Government have considered the expediency of raising this objection which is based on the non-expiry of three months time from the date of publication of the Bill and the absence of fifteen days notice of the Select Committee report. If the Government fully realized the expediency of raising the objection based on these grounds I should certainly consider whether I should exercise my discretion one way or the other."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Mr. President, the Government did consider and that is why the objection is being pressed now."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" What is the inconvenience to Government on account of short notice under both the heads ? I ask for this information as I have to use my discretion after being convinced of the difficulties faced by Government."

* The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The difficulty faced by Government on this occasion is that the Select Committee's report was placed in our hands only on the 22nd and on enquiries made in the Legislative Council office as to whether this Bill would come up for discussion during this meeting, we were informed that the office had not heard anything about it. Of course, there is no rule which requires the author of the Bill to give such notice, but rightly or wrongly, we thought that, as the report of the Select Committee was circulated only on the 22nd, the Bill would not come up for consideration now. Moreover, there are some important points on which Government have to come to some conclusion and I was informed also this morning by the hon. the Mover that he wanted an adjournment."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on pages 262-265 infra.

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* The hon. the PRESIDENT (addressing Mr. Saldanha) :—" Does the hon. Member require an adjournment of the matter?"

* Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I don't object to his application for adjournment for this reason. At present, we find that the Select Committee's report was placed only on the 22nd in our hands. And, there are some important papers which were placed before the Select Committee . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We shall go into the question later on. I now want to know whether the hon. Member is in favour of adjournment of the consideration of the Bill"

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Yes, Sir."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Since the hon. Mover as well as the Government is in favour of adjournment, I use my discretion in allowing the objection."

V

A BILL TO AMEND THE MADRAS DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES ACT, 1920.[a]

* Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" Mr. President, I beg to move that leave be granted for referring the Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, 1920, to a select committee composed of more than fifteen members under Standing Order No. 40 (2)."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" I second it, Sir."

* The hon the PRESIDENT :—" The question is that the provisions of Standing Order No. 40 (2) be suspended. I take it that the House is ready for a vote."

The motion was put to the House and carried.

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a select committee composed of the following members :—

(1) The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan.
(2) The hon. the Advocate-General.
(3) Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao.
(4) ,, P. Anjaneyulu.
(5) ,, Abdul Hamid Khan Sahib.
(6) ,, K. V. R. Swami.
(7) ,, K. R. Karant
(8) ,, J. A. Davis.
(9) ,, S. Satyamurti.
(10) Diwan Bahadur S. Kumaraswami Reddiyar.
(11) Rao Bahadur B. Muniswami Nayudu.
(12) Mr. S. Arpudaswami Udayar.
(13) ,, Daniel Thomas.
(14) Rao Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliyar.
(15) Mr. R. Srinivasa Ayyangar.
(16) ,, K. R. Venkatarama Ayyar.
(17) ,, L. K. Tulasiram.
(18) ,, S. Venkiah.
(19) The Zamindar of Gollapalli.
(20) Mr. K. Uppi Sahib.
(21) Swami A. S. Sahajanandam.
(22) Mr. T. M. Narayanaswami Pillai."

Mr. K. R. KARANT :—" I second it, Sir."

[a] Published in the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 6th November 1928, as Bill No. 17 of 1928.